

NDDDB to train farmers for milk production

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Staff Reporter,

On the lines of Jalyukt Shivar, Government initiates the idea of farms with fodder, says Chief Minister

Animal conservation and milk production are the important aspects of the farmers. These sectors can help them in raising their revenue. Government has decided to give due importance to these aspects. In that context the farmers will be given training by National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB), informed Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis. He was speaking during the meeting on dairy development projects held at Ramgiri. He said that animal need fodder and milk production too depends on it. The Government is thinking of bringing the scheme 'The shivar full of fodder' on the lines of Jalyukt Shivar.

Informing during the meeting that now collector of that district can provide the land for National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB), Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said, "The training will strengthen the cooperative milk production federations. Government will give all kind of help to Mother Dairy. The awareness about this profession need to be spread among the citizens and Sarpanch of the villages. The officials should provide the information of the lands and facilities to be given for Mother Dairy. The Central and State Governments will provide funds for the scheme.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said, "Mother Dairy project can help in preventing farmer suicide. We can gather 25 lakh litre milk through NDDDB and we should be able to market it. This project will change the picture of Vidarbha and Marathwada."

A decision to make land available at Amravati, Wardha, Nagpur and Chandrapur for the project was taken at the meeting, said officials.

Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra Chief Minister, and Dilip Rath, NDDDB Chairman, had already signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to start Mother Dairy project in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions to provide milk producers access to markets in Nagpur and Mumbai. Mother Dairy has already initiated milk procurement operations in Amravati, Wardha, Nagpur, Chandrapur, Nanded, Osmanabad, Buldhana and Yavatmal.

Through NDDDB and Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetables special programmes are to be implemented in 10 districts of Vidarbha and Marathwada and for which 3,023 villages have been chosen. These include 248 villages from Amravati, 352 from Buldhana, 248 in Wardha, 363 from Nagpur, 120 of Akola and 139 from Chandrapur.

The project is currently being implemented in 1047 villages of Vidarbha benefiting over 23,000 farmers and more than 1.5 lakh litre milk was being collected per day.

State Dairy Commissioner of Maharashtra Rajiv Jadhav, Agriculture Joint Director Vijay Ghawte, Chandrapur Municipal Commissioner Sanjay Kakde, Amravati Municipal Commissioner Hemantkumar Pawar, General Manager of Mother Dairy Dr Chetan Sharma, Sandip Ghosh, Managing Director Vanjiv Khanna, Regional Head of NDDDB Anil Hatekar and other officers were present.